HANA TO YUME COMICS

Toraware no minoue

vol. 04

Hino Matsuri

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Toraware
no Minoue

今迄のあらすじ

〈御先祖様の真剣で切り取り御話〉

その昔、昔の事です。昴上家の先祖は、美しい女を一人見初めました。しかし、その女は人間ではなく、狐でした。狐と人間の恋は、決して許されるものではありません。昴上家の先祖も悩んだ末に、狐を殺してしまいました。

しかし、狐の呪いは強く、昴上家の先祖も狐の呪いにかけられ、そして、狐を殺した者を放っておくと、狐の呪いは代々受け継がれていくと言われていました。

昴上家の先祖は、狐の呪いを解こうと、陰陽師に相談しましたが、陰陽師の放った矢が昴上家の先祖に当たってしまい、昴上家の先祖は、狐の呪いにかかってしまいました。

その時です。狐の呪いを解こうとしていた陰陽師が、昴上家の先祖に、呪いをかけたのです。

昴上家の先祖は、狐を生き返らせ、昴上家には、呪いをかけたのです。

それは子々孫々百代先まで、昴上家に下僕として仕えなければならないという呪いでした。

〈しかし子孫は……〉

そんな呪われた家柄に生まれた昴石恵20才ではありましたが、呪いの事は特に教わる事もなく、お仕えべき昴上家御一同も、昴石恵が14才の時に行方不明になりました。

一家がしくなったと知ってからは、すっかり忘却しました。

〈ところがある日〉

喜ばしい事に、昴上家の一人娘・鈴花お嬢様だけは、生きて異国から帰って来られたのです。

魔法人間と化していた恵でしたが、お嬢様と14年振りに目が合った時、激代していた呪いが突如発症しました。

下僕化してしまう先作です。

症状は悪化し、とうとう恵は鈴花お嬢様なしでは生きていけない体質になってしまったのです。それもこれも14年の歳月の間に、呪いに対する免疫が一切つけられなかったからでした……。

鈴花お嬢様は多くの辛く悲しい思いをされてこられたのにも関わらずたいへん純粋でお優しい方でした。恵はお嬢様を一人の女の子として好きになり、一方、鈴花お嬢様は……。

……とにかく2人は仲良くやっているようです。

I REALISED THAT I LIKED HIM TO A PAINFUL DEGREE

WITHIN THE DEPTHS OF MY HEART WAS AN UNCOMFORTABLE, YET FORCEFUL DESIRE—

WITH HIS KISS, I FELT BLISS

MEGUMI, I LOVE YOU...
MORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE.
.....
MEGUMI ..?
YOU SEEM A LITTLE PERPLEXED...

I'M PERPLEXED BEC USE, I LOVE YOU, TOO!!
BAM
HAH
HAH
LET...
LET GO, MEGUMI ...
...!

AN APRON
RUSTLE
RETURN
RETURN IT TO ME
WH..!
UNCLE KUROISHI-SAN, COME HOME QUICKLY
MY CARELESSNESS MADE THE CURSE ACTIVATE AGAIN
The curse is easily activated when they are alone
GRIP
I, AS YOUR SERVANT, SIMPLY CANNOT BEAR TO SEE YOU IN SUCH A STATE!
SUCH DRESSING DOES NOT FIT MISS SUZUKA!

VOLUME 4
IT IS THE READERS WHO GAVE ME WHAT I HAVE TODAY!
NO!
IS "HOW DARE A COMMONER LIKE YOU ORDER ME AROUND?" WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY?
Pitiable
HM.
HOW DO I PUT IT ACROSS TO HIM..
IT'S THE CURSE TAKING EFFECT!
TEAR
MEGUMI,
YOU AREN'T MY SERVANT...
MEGUMI IS SO MEAN!!

I DON'T WANT TO!
I can't do more
AND YET YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE ME AS A SERVANT!
I WAS BORN TO BE MISS SUZUKA'S SERVANT...
DEPRESSED
AH!
DASH
WHERE ARE YOU GOING...
AHH! I GOT CHASED AROUND SO MUCH THAT FORGOT THAT THE OVEN WAS ON!
I'M SORRY, MEGUMI,
DASH
AH! MISS SUZUKA,
I ALREADY HANDED THE KITCHEN OVER TO YOU, PLEASE DO TAKE CARE OF IT...
chuckle
UGH
THANKS RUI-SAN
OH...
I HAVE ALREADY SWITCHED OFF THE OVEN
GRIN

I COULDN'T SLEEP LAST NIGHT BECAUSE I WAS SO EXCITED
AH,
GOOD MORNING
MEGUMI?
SIGH...
THE CURSE WAS ACTIVATED AGAIN...
I'M EXHAUSTED
AH
WHY DOES IS HER SMILE SO UNGUARDED?
IS IT BECAUSE SHE HAS COMPLETE FAITH IN ME?
SIGH...
SHOCK
MEGUMI NII-CHAN!

THANK YOU...
FROM THE LAWYER'S OFFICE
HERE, A FAX FOR YOU JUST CAME...
SO YOU WERE THIS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE IDEA, HUH...
I SEE
NO!
I DON'T THINK THAT THE TYPE OF GIRL WHO DOES AS MUCH AS SHE CAN OUT OF FREEWILL IS THE HUMILIATION OF A MAN'S PRIDE!
ACTUALLY, WAIT THAT'S NOT DOING AS MUCH AS YOU CAN. I MISPHRASED AND ITS REALLY...
ONCE SOMETHING IS MENTIONED, THE OTHER PARTY CAN RESPOND IMMEDIATELY
THEY ARE DISCUSSING ABOUT THINGS THAT ONLY THEY CAN UNDERSTAND
TAKE CARE OF THIS TOMORROW
OK,
I UNDERSTAND
AH..
I HOPE MEGUMI'S ALRIGHT..
TAP
TAP
TAP

It's probably family matters
I CAN'T EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY'RE SAYING
MEGUMI HAS ALWAYS DOTED ON RUI...
RUI HAS LIKED MEGUMI EVEN IN THE PAST.
THEN,
WE'RE LEAVING SEPERATELY THIS MORNING.
I'M GOING TO THE BANK TO CHECK ON THE PROCEDURES,
AND TO MAKE SURE THAT THE MONEY BELONGS TO YOU.
I UNDERSTAND THAT MY PARENTS LEFT THE MONEY FOR ME BUT...
IS THERE A NEED TO FIGHT WITH OTHERS TO RECLAIM IT?
I go to school eh?
I JUST KNEW THAT YOU WOULD SAY THAT.
AND...
AND...

YOU'VE BEEN WORRIED EVEN ABOUT THESE THINGS?
ALTHOUGH MY BODY NEEDS YOUR PRESENCE TO FUNCTION...
BUT!
THE SCHOOL IS SO FAR AWAY FROM THE PLACE YOU'LL BE! WE'LL BE EVEN FURTHER APART THAN USUAL!
WHAT IF YOU PASS OUT AGAIN!?
WORRY NOT,
IT WON'T BE VERY FAR.
REALLY?
SOB
BUT... I DON'T ACTUALLY CARE ABOUT THE INHERITANCE OR THE MONEY...
YOU CAN'T CHOOSE NOT TO CARE!
BECAUSE...
BOTH THE INHERITANCE AND THE HOUSE ARE USED TO PROTECT YOU.

SLAP
Ouch!
I DON'T CARE!
CAUSE I KNOW YOU WILL PROTECT ME!
THUMP
I've gained the mistress' trust..
cursed
Bow
WAIT A MINUTE!
BONK

I'M LEAVING FIRST!
I'LL BE ALRIGHT ALONE.
FOLLOW THE USUAL PROCEDURE. I'M HANDING IT OVER TO THE LOT OF YOU.
KUROISHI HERE...
PI!
ZOOM
ZOOM
ZOOM

FOLLOW
FOLLOW
FOLLOW
FOLLOW
YOU HAD ALLOWED YOURSELF TO IGNORE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES ENTIRELY
I USED TO THINK THAT
YOU'RE PRETTY CAPABLE AS THE FUTURE HOUSEKEEPER OF THIS HOUSEHOLD!
WHEW THIS WAY MISS SUZUKA'S SAFE
EHH?
I'M LEAVING NOW
HOW CONCEITED
Please do your best to get along with Uncle Kuroda!
NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY DAD GOT HER TO BE THE MAID...
SHE'S A SUITABLY NOSEY SHREW
THE SHREW WHO STOPS ME FROM DOING THINGS OFFHANDEDLY

KA CLUNG
KA CLUNG
KA CLUNG
KA CLUNG
DOES WATCHING THE WASHING MACHINE FUNCTION ENTERTAIN YOU THAT MUCH?
YES! I'VE NEVER USED IT BACK HOME IN CHINA BEFORE,
IT'S INTERESTING AND CONVENIENT
Weirdo
TRY NOT TO SNATCH MY JOB AWAY!
How annoying
CLUNG CLUNG
MEGUMI JUST ASKED ME A SIMILAR QUESTION...
Is it that interesting?
AH!
YEAH...
I GUESSED AS MUCH
WE HAVE MUCH MORE SIMILAR EXPERIENCES IN LIFE, SO I SUPPOSE THE WAY WE VALUE THINGS WOULD BE MORE SIMILAR AS WELL
CHUCKLE
I GUESS.
DID HE SUGGEST YOU TO BUY YOUR PARENTS A WASHING MACHINE?
I REALLY UNDERSTAND MEGUMI NII-SAN
Excuse me
Hehe
SUCH EVIL INTENTIONS...
Hahh
Hahh
Damnit! The evil one!

KA CLUNG
RUI REALLY UNDERSTOOD HOW MEGUMI WAS, WHILE I WAS AWAY...
2
A
A
A
AH..
RAIN!
DASH
UMBRELLA!
MEGUMI'S GOING TO GET WET..
!!
TAN TAN TAN
THE DOWNPOUR WAS SO SUDDEN!
EVEN THE CLOTHES YOU'RE WEARING INSIDE GOT WET!

IT'S ALRIGHT I CAN DRY MYSELF
BUT THERE'S NOTHING FOR ME TO DO RIGHT NOW!
MISS SUZUKA STOLE MY LAUNDRY DUTIES
WAIT A MOMENT!
THUD
THUD
EH
GRAB
I...
I'M BACK, SUZUKA..
I'LL HELP YOU DRY YOURSELF!

That's so exciting
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD IF YOU DON'T TAKE THEM OFF..
STOP THAT!
AH..
AH..
AH..!
EHHHH..?
BLUSH
SUZUKA
SIGH
AND SHE UNDERSTANDS YOU WELL.
AND RUI LIKES YOU.
I CAN'T BEAR TO WATCH RUI TOUCH YOU,
I'M SORRY

RECENTLY,
THAT'S ALL MY MIND'S BEEN FILLED WITH,
I'M SO USELESS.
.....
.....
Fu
COME OVER HERE.

YOU CAN'T BRING MISS SUZUKA INTO YOUR OWN ROOM...!
BASH
BASH
BASH
Dress
!
HOLD ON, MEGUMI!
EVEN IF YOU TWO ARE VERY GOOD TERMS,
SLAM
AHHH ...
UNCLE KUROISHI DIDN'T GIVE ME THE KEY TO THIS ROOM
He said there was no need.
Slip
MEGUMI ONII-CHAN, PLEASE DO NOT ACT IMPULSIVELY

YOUR ROOM FURNISHINGS DON'T LOOK THAT BAD...
.....
I'VE ONLY BEEN IN HERE ONCE...
THIS IS THE SECOND TIME
SECOND TIME?
!!!
Klomp
Pull
SHOCK
!!!

SEE THIS SCAR HERE?
LOOK.
THIS..
THUMP
UM..
THUMP
DO YOU REMEMBER?

!!
WHEN I WAS 3 YEARS OLD, I LEFT...
Shakuna
...
SUZUKA
...
WHERE IS SHE ..
Onii
Onii
SUZUKA!
AH!

MY CLOTHES ARE STUCK.
I CAN'T MOVE ANYWAY!!
Um, Um
Gulp
Hey, it's so high up here!
WAH!
IT'S DAN-GEROUS! DON'T MOVE!
Hey...!
Megumi!
!?
CREACK
Suzuka ....!

THROB
OW...
AH...
MY RIBS HURT...
I CAN'T GET UP...
SIGH...
I'M GOING TO GET SCOLDED BY GRANDMA.
Aren't I still be yelled by Mom.
BUT...THANK GOODNESS SHE'S ALRIGHT...

I WAS PROUD THAT I COULD PROTECT YOU.
BACK THEN AND NOW,
I... PROTECTED HER...

PROOF THAT I PROTECTED YOU...
IS SOMETHING ONLY YOU AND I KNOW ABOUT
THIS SCAR...

MEGUMI ALWAYS PROVIDES ME WITH THE RIGHT ANSWERS.
WHEN I'M UNCOMFORTABLE
WHY DO I LIKE MEGUMI?
.....
IT TURNS OUT THAT THE ANSWER WAS BEFORE ME ALL ALONG..
PLEASE SIT, MISTRESS.
FWIP
SINCE THE PROBLEM IS SOLVED,
I'M GOING TO LET YOU GO NOW.
HUH?
DID YOU THINK THAT I WAS GOING TO DO SOMETHING TO YOU THIS TIME?
CHUCKLE

WHEN WE'RE TOGETHER, I TEND TO LET MY GUARD DOWN,
IT REALLY FRUSTRATES ME...
BECAUSE I REALLY LIKE YOU...
IN CONCLUSION!
YOU CAN'T ENTER A GUY'S ROOM SO EASILY EVEN IF YOU'RE INVITED!
IT'S VERY DANGEROUS!
ALRIGHT, PLEASE GET GOING!
OH, OKAY...
UHHHH...
HUM?

I WENT AGAINST MY MOTHER'S WARNINGS...
tremble
WARNINGS ?
.....?
WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
SUZUKA!
DASH
I...
I REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE!
SUZUKA!
DID MEGUMI ONII-CHAN FINALLY DO IT?
His shirt isn't tuckrd properly
DASH
DASH
LADY SUZUKA?
BANG
HYAH!

MY MOTHER IN CHINA... I'VE LET YOU DOWN!
LISTEN WELL, SUZUKA, UNWED WOMEN,
MUST NOT ENTER MEN'S BEDROOMS!
I
I WAS UNABLE TO HEED YOUR WARNING
YOUR FOSTER DAUGHTER
has behaved disobediently!

I'VE APOLOGISED TO MY MOTHER SEVERAL TIMES. .
I... IN MY HEART.
DO YOU FEEL A BIT BETTER?
MM...
THEN I BEGAN THINKING ABOUT HER. AND THEN I STARTED TO MISS HER.
TO MY DEAR FATHER IN CHINA
SUZUKA'S GOING TO BECOME HOMESICK AT THIS RATE!
WA AAA AH!
I REALLY WANT TO GO TO CHINA!

Toraware no Minoue

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TORAWARENO MINOUE

① 表2と表3の カラーイラストについて。
(カバーの折り返し部分です。)
2点とも ララDXの表紙用に 描かせてもらえた イラストです。「動物を表紙に 登場させる」のが テーマ(?)という ことで 指示を 受け 私なりに ハトや 熱帯魚を 登場させて みました。でも 鈴花の バニーは 表紙担当者の 方の 提案だったのですよ。描いて 楽しかったです。バニー♡ お気に入りの 絵たちです。

MAMA...
"LEARN KUNG FU?"
"WHY?"

"BECAUSE BOYS TEASE ME
THEY SAY I'M A JAPANESE SO I'M A WIMP"
"I WANT TO BE STRONG"

"AHAHAHAHA WHAT A SIMPLE IDEA—TYPICAL OF YOU."
"MAMA!"
"HAVE A GO, SUZUKA."
SEEMS I FAILED...MAMA

CHUCKLE.
I AM AS WIMPY AS EVER.
I AM AS WIMPY AS EVER
BUT
I'M OK NOW.
EH?

コン
コン
GOOD MORN...
ぎゅっ
RUI-SAN..!
ぐすっ
RUI-SAN WHAT SHOULD I DO? SOB TEARS KEEP FILLING MY EYES !
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME?

COME WITH ME PLEASE, LADY SUZUKA!
!?
MEGUMI DEAR BROTHER DO SOMETHING, PLEASE!
SHE'S STILL HOME SICK!
TEARS DROPPING
I DION'T DO IT.

FLOOMP FLOOMP
SUZUKA.
NO!
IT'S NOT THAT!
PLEASE.. DON'T LOOK LIKE THAT
I JUST REMEMBERED ABOUT CHINA.
TEARS KEEP FILING MY EYES-
DON'T WORRY...

SORRY, SUZUKA
I'VE BEEN TRYING NOT TO TALK ABOUT YOUR 2ND HOME.
I KNOW YOU CHERISH YOUR 'FAMILY'
I FIGURED YOU'D BE LIKE THIS.
I WANTED TO COME TO JAPAN.
I JUST MISS HER BECAUSE I'M VULNERABLE.
I STILL WANT TO STAY HERE.
?
AH?
……

THEY DID.
THE TEARS HAVE STOPPED.
I'M GLAD I WAS HAVING TROUBLE STOPPING THEM
...I'M KEENLY FEELING, YOU ARE AN EMOTIONAL LADY...
I ONLY HAVE TO BE WITH MEGUMI AND CONCENTRATE ON MEGUMI
SHALL I BE WITH YOU ALL DAY TODAY?

CALL IT 'PARENTS' DAY'
AM I GOING TO WALK YOU AROUND IN SCHOOL ALL DAY?
I'LL GO WITH YOU
I HAVE SCHOOL...
..OF COURSE I'LL BE HAPPY IF YOU WILL
LET'S SKIP SCHOOL, THEN
NO NO THERE'S NO NEED!
AH, HELLO
NOW FIRST I HAVE TO GET PERMISSION FROM THE DIRECTOR.
PERMITTED
FOR NOW...
HE'S BEHAVING.. FOR NOW
I'M SO WORRIED SOMETHING MIGHT HAPPEN THAT I CAN'T GET HOMESICK

I'M WORRIED..
RECESS MIGHT BE OK
BUT WHAT IF THE CURSE HAPPENED DURING THE CLASSES..
FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE TEACHER ASKED ME A HARD QUESTION
YOU, THE TEACHER THERE!
IS AN UNFORG-IVING SIN!
THE MOP IS FOR CLEANING!
AND I COULDN'T ANSWER...!!
SHOOT. THIS IS NOT GOOD~
RIGHT. KOUSAMI!
Y, YES!!?
STERN!

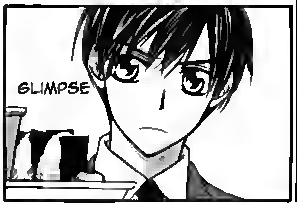
C
OF ALL THINGS
TREMBLE TREMBLE
THE PROBLEM I'M NOT GOOD AT...
STARE
DON'T BE HASTY! MEGUMI
THROB THROB THROB
EH?
YOU KNOW I'M NOT GOOD AT MATH.
DON'T LOOK, PLEASE
AND PHYSICS AND COMPUTER TRAINING AND
GAZE

IT SEEMS I'M MAKING HER NERVOUS,
SO I'LL BE OUTSIDE
HUH?
MEGUMI'S QUIET AS HE SHOULD!
SOME REASON,
DON'T TELL ME
FOR

WAS THE CURSE OF THE SERVANT BROKEN?
MAYBE,
FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON
キラキラ
キラキラ
WAS IT!?
EYES MET IN ABANDON
NO WAY!
MY PRINCESS WITH SHINING EYES..
NOTHING OF THAT HAPPENED,

HOWEVER!
WITH YOUR POSITION IN MIND,
I'VE BEEN REFRAINING MYSELF AS LONG AS YOUR SAFETY IS NOT AT STAKE
BUT IF I MAY SAY SO
THE MATH TEACHER AND WHOEVER THREW A BALL AT YOU ARE " UNPARDONABLE ! WHATSOEVER!
I
SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED..
I COULD ONLY WATCH OVER YOU
IT'S A TORTURE
IT'S BECAUSE OF YOUR ' PARENT DAY'—
OUCH!?

YOUNG MASTER TAKATSUKASA
SULLEN


GLIMPSE

UGH
HUMPH
AH, HIRYU -KUN

WHISPER WHISPER
THESE DAYS IT FEELS LIKE I'M BEING WATCHED EVEN WHEN I'M ALONE!
I KNOW! OVER-PROTECTIVE!
TAKATSUKASA YOU BIG MOUTH...
WHISPER WHISPER
SUZUKA, WE SHARE THE SAME BURDENS, DON'T WE?
OUR SHIBATA WAS LIKE THAT AT FIRST.
NO, EVEN NOW
YOU MIGHT THINK YOU'RE ALONE BUT YOU'RE WITH GUARDS AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE CHECKED OUT.
NO, IT'S NOT YOUR IMAGINATION!
THE TOPIC ONLY RICH KIDS CAN TALK ABOUT.

FIRM
OUR PRIVACY IS GONE!
VONCE YOU'RE UNDER THESE "BUTLER BUSINESS" MEN
WHAT, WHAT
DON'T APOLOGIZE
I KNOW YOU WORRY ABOUT ME
SORRY
I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T LIKE IT SO I DIDN'T TELL YOU
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

I HAD THOUGHT YOU WERE WITH ME SO I WOULDN'T BE LONELY.
THAT WASN'T ALL YOU WERE THINKING, WAS IT?
BUT...
I ALWAYS REALIZE LATER... THAT I'M PROTECTED
LIKE TODAY BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WASN'T HOME SICK ANYMORE
IT'S LIKE I'M A PUPPET IN YOUR HANDS.
YOU SOUND SARCASTIC
I AM!
I'M NO MATCH FOR YOU, ANYWAY!

NO MATCH FOR YOU
REALLY
I DON'T THINK YOU'LL CRY ANYMORE.
TRUE
SO I'LL GET BACK TO MY USUAL BUSINESS.
WHAT? HE'S NOT HIMSELF TODAY
HE SAID IT'S A TORTURE
FOR NOW HE WANTS TO HIDE HIS INTENTION
KA-THUNK
OH
WELL
GIVEN HIS POSITION, IT'LL BE ABNORMAL TO BE TRUE TO HIMSELF
OK
I PREFER ABNORMAL

I RECOVERED
PORK BUN
THE WRAPPING TASTES LIKE MAMA'S
DELICIOUS
FROM HOME SICK
BUT BECAUSE OF MY TRANSIENT "DOUBTS,"
MEGUMI'S FACE LOOKED SAD
BUT HE
MEGUMI ALWAYS GIVES PRIORITY TO ME...
EVEN WHEN I WANT HIM TO GIVE HIMSELF PRIORITY, HE DOESN'T ALLOW IT
PART OF HIS HEART IS OVERWROUGHT...
I DON'T WANT RELATIONSHIP LIKE THIS...

I'M GOING HOME.
END IT AND START A NEW ONE.
I'M NOT A BIRD IN A CAGE.

TO THE WORLD YOU ARE NOT IN
GOOD BYE, MY LOVE.
I WON'T STOP YOU

IF THAT MAKES YOU HAPPY.
I WILL BE WILLING TO SUFFER FROM ENDLESS AGONY
YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO STOP ME, DO YOU?

WHAT AM I TO YOU, MEGUMI!?
WHAT A BAD DRAM
I HATE YOU FOR BELIEVING IT, MEGUMI!
I MIGHT BE SLOW, BUT I THINK I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL
I KNOW I'M NEEDED BY YOU
BUT MEGUMI, YOU 'RE ALWAYS WORRIED IF YOU'RE ALLOWED

AND... WHY...
DON'T YOU SHOW ME YOUR WEAK POINT?
IT'S NOT FAIR! I WANT YOU TO SHOW ME ALL OF YOU
I KNOW

THE MORE
YOU GIVE ME YOUR HEART.
THE CLOSER YOU BECOME,
THE MORE IMPORTANT YOU BECOME AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...!

I HAVE INHERITED 'THE CURSE' WHICH FORCES ME TO SERVE THE KOUGAMI FAMILY AS A SERVANT
AND I HAVE BEEN PROGRAMMED TO TAKE CARE OF "SUZUKA KOUGAMI" AS MY MISTRESS
IN MY EYES, YOU ARE HOPELESSLY PURE-HEARTED AND DEEPLY WARM -
..I WANT TO LOVE I WANT TO BE LOVED.
I WANT YOU BESIDE ME I WANT TO PROTECT YOU...!
DON'T GO...!
I COULDN'T SHOW YOU BECAUSE I WAS UNCERTAIN
IF THIS GOOSE-BUMPING URGE WAS PROGRAMMED
WHICH PART IS "MY HEART"...

I REMEMBER PAPA'S WORDS ON HIS DEATHBED.
I'M SORRY. TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF
FOR SOMEONE ..
WHO WILL NEED YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE...
NOT AL WHO SAVED MY LIFE
NOT MAMA WHO LOVED AND RAISED ME
MORE
MORE
I WANT TO BE NEEDED
BY YOU...!

MY HEART HAS ALREADY CONNECTED TO YOURS
DON'T BE SAD, MEGUMI...
IF YOU ARE SAD, I'M SAD, TOO...

RUI IS..
I'M SORRY, I'VE LOCKED HER UP
I DIDN'T WANT HER INTERRUPT
I'M IMMORAL
MAYBE I HAD THOUGHT I COULD LET IT HAPPEN FROM THE START..
YOU'RE NOT IMMORAL, SUZUKA

IF THE CURSE IS BROKEN SOMEDAY
UGH?
TOUCH
THOUGH I DON'T KNOW HOW THE CURSE OF THE DRAGON GOD IS TWINING AROUND US

WHAT HAVE I...!
EH?
!?
AHH
HOW CAN I TRY TO DEFLOWER PRINCESS..!!
I'M NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO TOUCH HER DIRECTLY...
. BUT YOU'VE BEEN TOUCHING ME ON MANY OCCASIONS .?
!?
COR..!
IT WON'T OPEN..!
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO!?
LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT!!

TORAWARENO
MINOUE

② 中国に行ってから 自分の感覚 少し変わったかも

うん。変わりました。一時的なものかもしれないけど 今までの様な感覚が働かないんですもん」 私は特に 中国旅行に 影響 受けました。――の割に 頭に浮かぶイメージは「砂漠の民」「宇宙」「樹」「大地」「風に靡く音楽」などなど。中国にも「とらわれ～」にも 関係 薄くないようなものばかり。

私、もともと「旅」したいのかなぁ。

中国旅行記が 本誌に載ってます！見てね♪

MEGUMI USED TO TOUCH ME SO OFTEN
IT'S THE SERVANT'S SEIZURE
I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS
WHY SUDDENLY "NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO TOUCH"!?
BUT IT'S DIFFERENT THAN USUAL.

IT MAKES ME MAD BUT IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME ONE BIT!
EVEN IF LADY SUZUKA LOCKED ME UP TO BE ALONE WITH MEGUMI DEAR BROTHER
OK!
...BUT...
I MUST DEFINITELY ASK HIM WHEN HE COMES BACK
COME TO THINK OF IT, WILL MR KUROISHI ALLOW THEIR RELATIONSHIP?
AHH REALLY! HOW LONG IS SHE GOING TO KEEP ME HERE!?

LADY SUZUKA!?
コン
……?
WH- WHAT WAS THAT KNOCKING
IMAGINATION?

LOOKING AT YOU BRING ME AWARENESS THAT "THE CURSE" ON US IS THE "PUNISHMENT" FROM THE DRAGON GOD.
PUNISHMENT...
I HAVE NEVER HAD TO FEEL ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THE CURSE AS THE KOUSAMI FAMILY'S SERVANT AND MY PERSONAL FEELINGS...

IT WAS THE ANCESTOR THAT LET THE KOUGAMI PRINCESS DIE AND MADE THE DRAGON GOD, THE PROTECTOR ANERY, NOT ME ?
PUNISHMENT...
TANTRUMS? DON'T HURT YOURSELF OVER A SMALL MATTER
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PROTECT PRINCESS WHEN THE NEED ARISES

...WELCOME HOME
UM...
...I SERIOUSLY TRIED TO EMBRACE SUZUKA.
I COMPLETELY FORGOT MY POSITION THE CURSE HAD PUT ME IN
BUT I WASN'T ALLOWED.
IT STOPPED ME, SAYING "YOU MUSTN'T MAKE PRINCESS YOURS..!"

I LOVE HER
I'M THIS CLOSE TO HER-
YET I MIGHT NEVER BE ABLE TO TOUCH HER AGAIN...
MY LADY
YOU HEARD WHAT MEGUMI SAID.
!?
SUZUKA

SO YOU STILL
YES.
WISH TO BE WITH MEGUMI?

VERY WELL
THE LADY'S HAPPINESS IS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY.
I SHALL MAKE THE UTMOST EFFORTS TO FIND THE LEAD TO BREAK THE CURSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
EH
HUH?
カリコ
IN FACT, IT SEEMS I MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND SOMETHING CLOSE TO HOME
!
.. DON'T YOU OBJECT, MR KUROISHI?
ムチ

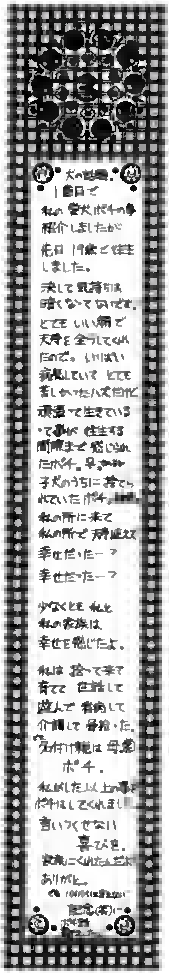
I HAVE NO OBJECTION AGAINST ANYONE WHO IS PREPARED FOR THE WORST LIKE THAT
IT WAS YOU WHO LOCKED UP RUI TO AVOID INTERFERENCE, WASN'T IT?
I WONDERED WHAT WAS INSIDE
I HAVE ONLY CHECKED THE CONTENT?
NOW I'LL RESCUE RUI
UMM WELL...
WHEN I CAME DOWN, MR. KUROISHI WAS TREATING MEGUMI...
I THOUGHT I HEARD GLASS BREAK
I HID MYSELF WITHOUT THINKING.
...SUZUKA
.....
..I WAS READY TO BE NEARLY KILLED....

SQUEEZE
UGH
UM
DON'T YOU .
WANT TO TOUCH ME ANY MORE?
PROBABLY NOT
UNLESS I'M GIVEN AN ORDER
I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT...!

SQUEEZE

MEGUMI
..HE SAID THE LEAD TO BREAK THE CURSE IS CLOSE..
THIS CURSE
I SHALL BREAK IT.

I'M AFRAID THE LADY WISHES TO REFRAIN FROM SEEING YOU NOW
YOU DID WELL
YES, SIR
THOUGH IT WAS TEMPORARILY, IT WAS NICE WORKING FOR YOU
BOW
きりっ
IF I SEE HER, I'M SURE SHE WILL CRY IN A FOND FAREWELL
IT'S BETTER IF I DON'T SEE HER
AND WIMPY AND A SOOKIE
HA HA HA
SHE'S HARD FOR ME TO DEAL WITH
IT WAS SO FRUSTRATING TO WATCH HER
I'M MORTIFIED BUT I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT AGAINST THOSE THEIR RELATIONSHIP
FINALLY I'M FREE FROM THE FRUSTRATION

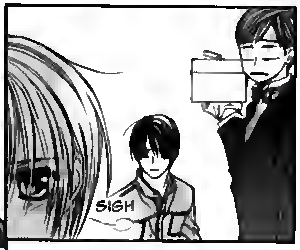

犬の世界。
1番目で
私の愛犬ポチの事
紹介しましたが
花日 1歳で 往生
しました。
天国で 飼主様は
喧嘩なっていますが、
とても いい 飼い
天寿を 全うしてくれ
たのだ。 いけない
病気していて とても
苦しかったんだ 自分に
頑張って 生きている
って 飼い 往生する
間際まで 感じられ
たポチ。 早くから
子犬のうちに 貰われていたポチ。
私の所に来て
私の所で 天寿迄
幸せだった？
幸せだった？
少なくとも 私と
私の家族は
幸せを感じたよ。
私は 拾って来て
育てて 仕舞して
病人で 看病して
介護して 看取った。
天使の能は 母愛
ポチ。
私がした以上の事を
してくれました。
言いつくせない
喜びを、
感謝にくれたんだよ
ありがと。
(illegible)
(illegible)

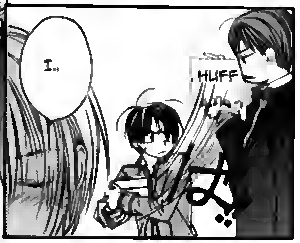
FROM NOW ON
I'LL BE ABLE TO FOCUS ON THE TRAINING TO BE A GREAT MAID!
HMMM
HONESTLY, I WANTED HER TO GET THE TRAINING HERE..

TAP TAP
CRASH
HMMM
BUT IT WON'T BE EASY WITH THOSE TWO..
NO, YOU CAN'T!!
I SAID I CAN DO IT!

IN THE BROAD DAY LIGHT
THE LADY IS ASSAULTING MEGUMI... OR NOT
救急箱
HUFF
YOU HAVE TO CLEAN AND BANDAGE IT!
!
HUFF
UGH...! I FEEL LIKE DYING IN ABJECT FEAR...!
GOT-YA!
MISTRESS ..? SHALL I TAKE OVER?
AHH...I MUST DO SOMETHING
MR. KUROISH!
RIGHT...
WHAT AM I DOING
..TIRED
PUFF AND PANT

PHEW
YES, CERTAINLY
THERE


SIGH


I..
HUFF

MAYBE I JUST WANT TO TOUCH MEGUMI BY WAY OF ATTENDING TO HIM.
!

YOU CAME BACK TO JAPAN BECAUSE YOU FOUND OUT, DIDN'T YOU!?
WHAT SORT OF CLUES DID MY PARENTS SEARCH IN CHINA?
SAY, MR KUROISHI!

YES
THE CLUE FOR BREAKING THE CURSE IS..
"THE HANGING SCROLL OF A RISING DRAGON", IN WHICH DRAGON GOD DWELLS IT WAS TAKEN AWAY FROM KOUGAMI FAMILY ABOUT 100 YEARS AGO
THE LATE MASTER FOUND OUT IT WAS TAKEN TO CHINA DURING THE POST-WAR MESS...
IT WAS PASSED INTO THE HANDS OF A JAPANESE AGAIN 3 DAYS AGO
RIGHT NOW, I'M LOOKING FOR THIS MAN AND HIS WHEREABOUTS
...I GOT IT...
WHEN WE GET THE SCROLL WE COULD ASK THE DRAGON GOD...
IF THAT'S POSSIBLE, THE "CURSE" WOULD'VE BEEN ALREADY BROKEN...
YES... BUT IT WON'T BE IRRELEVANT

I'M OK. IF I'M AFRAID, I'LL LOSE..
DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT SO EASILY. IT SCARES SUZUKA.
JITTERY
N.G
ANY PROOF THAT IT'S REAL?
SOMEONE JUST DIED FROM THE "CURSE OF THE DRAGON GOD"
BIG MOUTH
NOT RUI-SAN
BECAUSE THE NEXT OPPONENT IS THE DRAGON GOD
どんっ
SHE GREW UP STRONG

GASP!!
DAZZLING...
YOUR DAZZLE IS BEYOND THE SUNSHINE AND HE WHO LOVES YOU CAN'T HELP BURNING UP!!
HEARTLESS LADY!
TOO DAZZLING...!!
SHE CAUGHT HIM FOR THE TIME BEING.
ER...
EXHAUSTING...
PLEASE DO IGNORE IT
THAT USUAL OVERDRIVE... STILL HAPPENS
WHAT'S HE SAYING? WHAT'S HE SAYING?
WHA
WHA
WHA
WHA

LET'S HURRY UP AND BREAK THE CURSE!
YES
BEFORE SUZUKA MASTERS HOW TO TIE A ROPE.
HEY, CAN I STAY HERE?
I WON'T DISTURB YOU...

EVEN IF YOU CAN'T HOLD ME NOW..
I'M HAPPY JUST BEING LIKE THIS...
I WORRY UNLESS I CAN KEEP HOLDING YOU SO YOU WON'T GO ANYWHERE

A GIRL IN MY CLASS WAS SAYING
POSSESSIVE MEN ARE NOT POPULAR
IF YOU GET TIRED OF ME, YOU COULD RESTRAIN ME INSTEAD
CHUCKLE
SQUEEZE
UH-UH...
I WANT TO BE RESTRAINED
I GOT IT MY LADY!!!
OK!

I FOUND THE PERSON WHO HAS THE SCROLL NOW
WE MUST HURRY! BECAUSE...
THE LEGEND SAYS THAT IF ANYONE OUTSIDE OF THE KOUGAMI FAMILY OPENS THE SCROLL, HE WILL DIE FROM THE DRAGON GOD'S CURSE.
わっはっは
はっはっは
I BOUGHT YOU THIS ON THE WAY HOME FROM VISITING IN CHINA
IT'S A HANGING SCROLL. THE DRAGON GOD WILL HEAR YOUR PRAYER!
どーん。

HA HA HA HA HA
I HOPE YOU WILL GET A PRETTY GIRL FRIEND WITH THIS!
AH—THANK YOU, SIR
GRANDFATHER..
OH! I ALMOST FORGOT
THE SCROLL WILL BRING YOU A CURSE IF YOU OPEN IT!
SCARY, ISN'T IT? BE CAREFUL, OK?
DRAGON GOD—? HANGING SCROLL..? THAT SOUNDS FAMILIAR..
ISN'T THAT THRILLING~! HAHAHAHA
AH, THE LEGEND OF THE KOUGAMI FAMILY'S CURSE
BUT I HEARD THE KOUGAMI FAMILY'S HANGING SCROLL WAS LOST LONG AGO
THAT OLD BUZZARD
KUH?
!
THIS IS AWKWARD PLEASE LET ME SHOW YOU..

はん!!
HIRYU-KUN! DON'T OPEN THAT SCROLL!!
SUZUKA !?
GASP
MESUMI! DON'T COME!! MR MINATO'S HERE!
THUD THUD THUD
WHAAAT!?
.....
MINATO SHIBATA. HIRYU'S ATTENDANT THE ONLY RELATIVE OF SUZUKA. HE TRIED DO A BAD THING USING "THE CURSE." SO SUZUKA IS CAUTIOUS ABOUT HIM. HE SEEMS TO HAVE CHANGED NOW

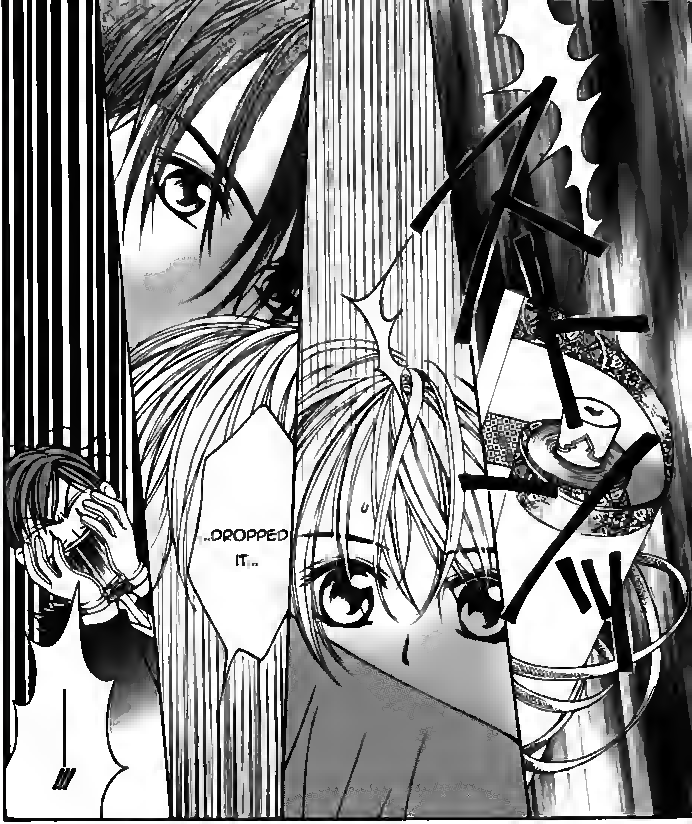
I BEG YOU
PLEASE GIVE ME THAT SCROLL
...HE GAVE IT UP JUST LIKE THAT...
HE SAID HIS PRAYER WAS ALREADY ANSWERED...
I KNEW THINGS WOULD GO WELL, IF MY LADY REQUESTED IT.
WE WERE FORTUNATE THAT IT WAS MR TAKATSUKA'S RESIDENCE

IT'S AUTHENT
IT'S GENUINE
?
..BUT I WONDER IF IT'S REAL..
THOSE CURSED BY DRAGON GOD
BECAUSE SOMETHING BAD SMELLS IN THE AIR
REEK
?
..OK I'LL OPEN IT.

CRINKLE
CRINKLE
ぎゅ!

MEGUMI
SQUEEZE
SLIP
I DON'T WANT YOU TO FACE SUCH A THING../
THE DRAGON GOD CAN CURSE AND KILL
MY EXISTENCE IS TO PROTECT SUZUKA TIL THE END
I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER HOLD ME AGAIN...

TORAWARENO
MINOUE



③ 画材について。

最近 カラーの画材について尋ねられる事が多かったので 書きます。
現在は ほとんど コピック（マーカーの一種）です。（「とらわれ～」の最初の読切りと最初の連載1回目の扉は違います。）
他に ヌーベルカラーインク（ホルベイン）セピア（ニードルペン）で主線 紙はキャンソンケントボード。
稀に ドクターマーチンのガッシュ 細部は水彩 アクリル 色鉛筆も使ったりします。

THE HANGING SCROLL OF A RISING DRAGON", IN WHICH THE DRAGON GOD DWELL
IT'S OPENED...!
FORGET THE SCROLL...!
COME TO THINK OF IT, WE'D BETTER RUN!!

EHH?
WHY?
ISN'T THE DRAGON GOD HUGE!? ENOUGH TO SMASH A HOUSE!!!
OHH COME TO THINK OF IT
!?
LIKELY!!!

GET DOWN!!
ドキドキドキ
しーん
!?
I'LL GO TAKE A LOOK
BE CAREFUL
I'VE GOT A MYMET ON!
MAYBE DRAGON GOD IS THE WRONG LEGEND, MAYBE IT'S FOX GOD OF HARVEST...
MAYBE HE DOESN'T JUMP OUT EVERY TIME..
..QUIET, ISN'T IT?

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE DRAGON GOD HERE?
MISS?-
HE'S QUICK!
GOOD GRIEF...
I THOUGHT THE DRAGON GOD WOULD APPEAR AND WE COULD TRY SOME KIND OF COUNTERMEASURE
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, SUZUKA...?

SINCE YOU PROTECTED ME.
THIS POSITION!!!

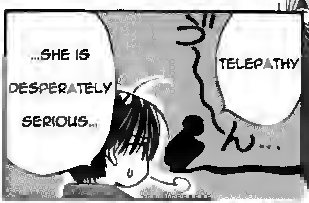
ごごご
!?
むー
THOUGH I LIKE MESSING WITH SUZUKA
"THE SERVANT'S CURSE" RESTRICTS MY ACTION.
..IF I GET THE SLIGHTEST LOVEY-DOVEY FEELING FOR SUZUKA
AH - I'M SAD..
I'M SURE WE CAN DO SOMETHING.
MEGUMI!
WE HAVE THE HANGING SCROLL NOW!
SUZUKA...

MISS---!
AH...
YES!
SO FAR, THE SCROLL HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL...
BUT THERE IS GRAFFITI WITH A BLOOD SEAL AT A CORNER OF THE DRAWING?
GRAFFITI...?

PLEASE LOOK
THERE'S A SEAL OF BLOOD RIGHT HERE. THIS MIGHT NOT BE JUST GRAFFITI.
THOUGH... IT LOOKS LIKE GRAFFITI.
-MY LADY, IT'S LATE—
NO NEED TO RUSH- PLEASE STOP THINKING SO HARD AND GET SOME REST.
-MAYBE IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE DRAGON GOD...
TENTATIVELY - I INTEND TO IMPLICITLY ASK A PROFESSOR MY LATE MASTER KNEW.

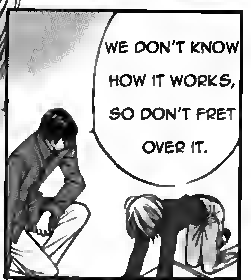
HANGING THE SCROLL UPSIDE DOWN
MAKE SURE THE MISTRESS DOESN'T OVERDO IT
OF COURSE

BURNING THE DRAGON GOD OUT
MY LADY...
ガキ


TELEPATHY
...SHE IS DESPERATELY SERIOUS...
ん...

-SUZUKA...

I THOUGHT WE COULD WORK IT OUT RIGHT NOW...


WE DON'T KNOW HOW IT WORKS, SO DON'T FRET OVER IT.

MAYBE... THERE'S NO WAY...?
I'M SORRY. I KNOW MEGUMI'S SADDER THAN I AM..
HEY MEGUMI?
...THIS IS REAL, ISN'T IT?
-YEAH
THOSE WHO WERE CURSED CAN TELL? I'M AFRAID IT'S REAL
はあ、

...REAL...
...SUZUKA?
GOOD NIGHT!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE I CAN DO TODAY!

DRAGON GOD WHO DWELLS IN THE SCROLL...
IF YOU TRULY PROTECT THE KOUGMAIS,
YOU SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO WATCH WHAT'S ABOUT TO HAPPEN IN FRONT OF YOU!
WITH A THRUST INTO HEART WITH THIS, I'LL DIE FOR SURE...

IF YOU DON'T GRANT MY WISH I'LL KILL MYSELF!
NOW!! BREAK THE CURSE YOU PUT ON MR.KUROISHI AND MEGUMI!
BREAK IT!!

WHY...
DON'T YOU RESPOND...
...UGH
THAT'S ENOUGH, SUZUKA!

SORRY...I KNEW IT'S JUST A BLUFF BUT I HAD TO STOP YOU
I DOUBT THAT THE DRAGON GOD ABSOLUTELY PROTECTS YOU.
..AND FOR THE IMPERFECTION, HE PUT THE CURSE ON US FOR THE KOUGAMIS AND CALLED IT "PUNISHMENT"
TO MAKE US PROTECT..
I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT...
...BUT... THEN WHAT CAN I DO...?

THE CLUE TO BREAK THE CURSE IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES...!
...BLEEDING
DOESN'T IT HURT?
...EH?
YOUR CHEST... SOAKED WITH BLOOD...
AH, I STABBED A LITTLE...
I'M OK... IT'S JUST A SCRATCH...
GASP!

AH...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
IF IT'S A SCRATCH IT MEANS NOTHING SERIOUS..
MEGUMI...?
EH!?

YOU HAVE A FAINT NOSTALGIC AROMA OF HOME...
ARE YOU A REINCARNATION OF A WOMAN I LOVE...?
...MEGUMI... IS THIS A GAME...?
I'M SORRY. IT SEEMS I WAS HALF AWAKE.
MY NAME IS "AN"

THE ONE YOU WERE RISKING YOUR LIFE FOR TO THREATE ME JUST A MINUTE AGO?
DRAGON GOD...? NO...
IF YOU BELIEVE IT OR NOT IS UP TO YOU
IF NOTHING IS DONE, YOUR SOUL CRIES OUT TOO LOUD I CAN'T EVEN HAVE A DOZE
THUS, I MUST PROVIDE YOU A SATISFYING ANSWER, MUSTN'T I?

FULFILL "THE CONTRACT" DESCRIBED IN THE SCROLL.
THEREWITH, MY ROLE SHALL END-
-WHEN IT HAPPENS, "THE CURSE OF SERVANTS"
I PUT ON THE KUROISHI SHALL BE BROKEN AS YOU DESIRE.
..."THE CONTRACT"?
WHAT!?

IS THAT THE GRAFFITI WITH A BLOOD SEAL ON THE SCROLL?
...I SEE...
... MY PARENTS DIED BEFORE THEY TOLD ME.
...PEOPLE FROM THE HEAD FAMILY MUST BE TOLD WHEN THEY BECOME 12
I'M BOUND BY THAT CONTRACT.
THAT'S THE CONTRACT OVER A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, A 12 YEAR-OLD CHILD WROTE IT IN AN ILLITERATE HAND USING CHARACTERS THAT ARE NOW EXTINCT.
.....
UNTIL THAT TIME, I WILL KEEP GUARDING YOUR CLAN FROM EXTINCTION...
TO GO AND FIND MY JEWEL THAT I DROPPED IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY FAR AWAY.
IT SAYS, "I WANT SOMEONE FROM KOUGAMI

ANYWAY...
WHAT A FOOLISH MAN...
THE JEWEL IS...
WELL.. IT'S AN IRIDESCENT BALL ABOUT THE SIZE THAT FITS IN YOUR HANDS..
IF HE ABANDONS HIS BURNING NEED, HE'LL FEEL BETTER...

THOSE WORDS MADE IT CLEAR!
MEGUMI WON'T RUN AWAY JUST TO FEEL BETTER!
YOU ARE THE DRAGON GOD TRANSFORMED TO MEGUMI!
I'm not running!
YOU SHOULD LEARN MORE ABOUT HUMAN MINDS!
I FORGOT TO SAY ONE THING

AHH! MEGUMI, SORRY I SLAPPED YOU
...!! YOU'LL ETURN IT TO HIM, WON'T YOU?
I'M JUST BORROWING IT
PUSHING HIS CONSCIENCE ASIDE
I DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE?
THIS BODY BELONGS TO YOUR SERVANT.. YOUR LOVE
...YES?
AH. THE BANDAGE I PUT ON.

WHAT SHALL I DO...
...NOW

OH WELL... YOU HATE ME ANYWAY
DON'T TOUCH ME!
YOU REMIND ME OF A WOMAN I LOVED...
I BORROWED THIS BODY BECAUSE I WANTED TO TOUCH YOU

IT SHOULD BECOME A FORCE TO BRING YOU GOOD LUCK
YOU'D BETTER KEEP IT AT HAND.
WHY DID YOU HAVE SUCH A "CONTRACT"..?
.....
TROUBLING YOURSELF OVER SUCH A THING...
SO THAT YOU WILL KEEP PROTECTING THEM...
SOMEONE DIDN'T WANT TO LOOK FOR YOUR JEWEL...
MAYBE

THE WOMAN YOU LOVED..?
I DIDN'T CARE.
IF I COULD BE NEAR THE CHILDREN THE WOMAN I LOVED LEFT BEHIND...
...MEGUMI!
YOU CAME BACK...
IT'S TOO SAD TO TALK ABOUT IT.
THE DRAGON GOD SAID
SNICKER SNICKER
HE USED MY TEAR GLAND TO CRY WITHOUT MY PERMISSION
EEK!?

AND-
AH
.....
GO TO THE WEST-
OUNTRY WHERE
THE YELLOW
DUST ROLLS.
HE SAYS.
CHINA...
IT WON'T
BE EASY TO
LOOK FOR A
LOST
PROPERTY
IN THAT VAST
PLACE...
BUT

I'LL GO.
IT'S SOMETHING I MUST DO.
パン。
PLEASE COME WITH ME.
YES, YES, CERTAINLY.

D...
DON'T!!!
I'LL PAINT THAT SCROLL PINK..!
I WANT TO GET BACK AT DRAGON GOD FOR TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ME
BUT BEFORE THAT
HEH
HEH
HEH
I'LL GET THAT, TOO
MAKING ME EMPTY HANDED?
I WILL STAY HERE FOR NOW PLEASE HAVE A SAFE TRIP
IT'S ALMOST A HONEYMOON.
I PREFER YOU EMPTY HANDED
IS THAT SO SIGNIFICANT?
TO MR. KUROISHI, THEY'RE JUST PLAYING KISSY FACE
LUCKILY OR NOT
THANKS TO THE SERVANT'S CURSE, THE MISTRESS AND MEGUMI CAN'T BE LOVEY-DOVEY WHILE TRAVELING
MAYBE I'LL MOLEST HIM BY FORCE...
HEH?

YOU KNOW?
IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE!
PRINCESS IS FLIRTING()
AHHHHHHHH MY LADY, MY LADY
ANXIETY
.....HAVE A NICE TRIP...
I'M OFF TO BREAK THE CURSE!
TORAWARENO MINOUE VOL 4 / END

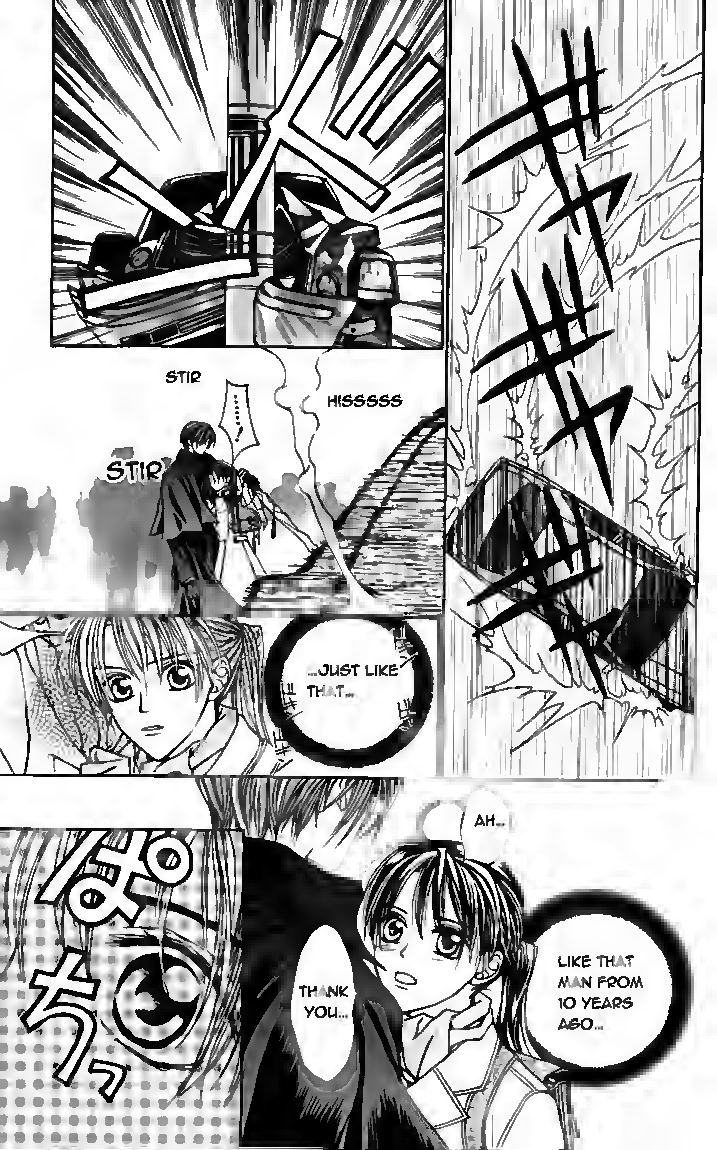
TORAWARENO MINOUE

SPECIAL EDITION♡

HE REMEMBERED MY NAME 10 YEARS AFTER THE FIRST ENCOUNTER.
10 YEARS AGO
I DID IT IN PASSING..
THAT'S ALL HE SAID
AND HE SAVED ME FROM BAD GUYS SO EASILY...
THANKS TO MY FATHER, AN EXCELLENT AND MERCILESS PROSECUTOR, PEOPLE WERE STILL TRYING TO KILL ME WHEN I WAS 16...
WHAT A PERSISTENT BUNCH!
SINCE THEN I CAN'T FIND HELP SO CONVENIENTLY
ONLY IF THEY HAVE NO WEAPONS!!

POLICE WON'T GUARD ME 24/365
SCREECH
SCREECH
SCREECH
STIR
THERE ARE PEOPLE!! SOMEBODY CALL THE POLICE.
STAND BACK, MASTER SEIGO
WOOSH
EH!?
EHH!?
FLINCH

MOVE


STIR
HISSSSS
STIR
...JUST LIKE THAT...
AH...
LIKE THAT MAN FROM 10 YEARS AGO...
THANK YOU...

PHEW
...IN PASSING...

STIR
GRAB
THERE YOU ARE, THE MAN FROM 10 YEARS AGO!!
THROB THROB THROB
I WAS 6. DO YOU REMEMBER!? YOU SAVED ME WHEN I WAS KIDNAPPED, DION'T YOU?
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU BUT I HAD NO LEAD AND WAS GIVING UP.
.....
AVERT
!
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR NAME..
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
MY NAME IS,
EXCUSE ME
MOVE

JUST LIKE 10 YEARS AGO BLUNT..
CAN'T I LONG FOR...?
FOR HIM TO PROTECT ME ANY TIME..
MASTER SEIGO, MS KASUMI
PLEASE FORGIVE MY BAD MANNERS. I JUDGED YOUR SAFETY WAS AT STAKE
NOT BY COINCIDENCE LIKE TODAY
BUT BESIDE ME ALL THE TIME...
HE DIDN'T PROTECT ME..
I WAS "IN PASSING" THEN AS WELL AS NOW...
BUMMAGE.. HE'S REALLY NOT INTERESTED IN ME..

FROM THE PREVIOUS HEAD BUTLER...
IT'S JUST THE SCABBARD NOW...
...YES BUT..
HIS MERE ANTIQUE SERVED YOU WELL.
I'M SURE MY FATHER IS PLEASED

I AM PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL TO YOU
FOR KINDLY ATTENDING MY FATHER'S FUNERAL
THUD
AH...
CHUCKLE
IT'S HIS FATHER'S FUNERAL .!!
!
.....!
BOW
...THAT GIRL ..SHE LOOKED A LITTLE HURT...

REALLY?
WHAT DID SHE SEE IN THIS OFF-WORLD MAN...
.....
OFF-WORLD ?
HMMM I BLAME IT ON THAT "CURSE OF DRAGON GOD"
YES, YES I KNOW
IT WON'T BE LONG! TONIGHT I'M SURE I'LL FIND THE CURSED HANGING SCROLL!
NOW NOW. WHY DON'T YOU TAKE TODAY OFF ..
NO WAY!
IF I STAY QUIET, YOU WILL MAKE A MOVE!
MS KAZUMI PLEASE WATCH MASTER SEIGO
YES. ♡

I FOLLOWED YOU AND WAITED FOR YOU!
ISN'T THIS THE HOUSE OF THE CORRUPT CONGRESS MAN? WHY DID YOU SNEAK IN?
EHEHEHEHE
.....
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING IMPORTANT
I DO ANYTHING FOR MY MASTER
..AH
I WAS "IN PASSING" 10 YEARS AGO..

BUT IT'S DANGEROUS
YOU MUST MAKE SURE NO ONE'S WATCHING!
WHO ARE YOU, MISS?
... I NEVER HAD A WITNESS BEFORE...
EXCUSE ME... YOU WEREN'T INTERESTED IN ME.
AH...
HE FELL SILENT...
I GOT HIS ATTENTION
KEITO SHIHII 16 YEARS OLD!
AN UNCOMMON HIGH SCHOOL GIRL WHO'S BEEN RUNNING FOR LIFE.

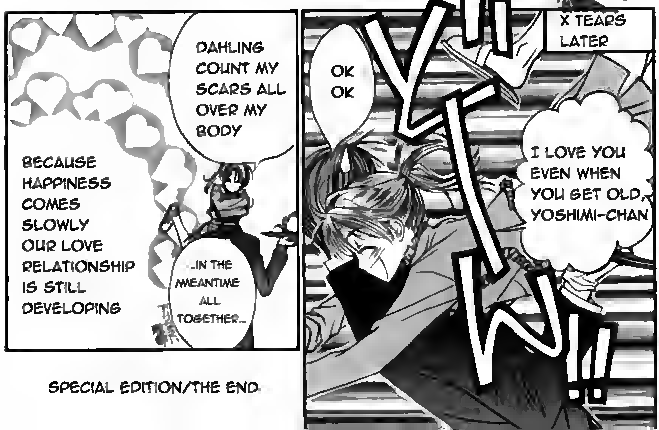
I DON'T MAKE ANY WITNESS
UGH
...UNTIL TODAY
I'VE SURVIVED ON LUCK AND GUTS...
I WONDER
I STEPPED ON A LAND MINE...
WHY DON'T YOU RESIST?
...RESIST ...?

NO..
I'M SO HAPPY
TOO HAPPY TO RESIST
..HUH?
SINCE I KNEW YOU WEREN'T NORMAL
THIS DOESN'T SURPRISE ME
I'M JUST HAPPY YOU FINALLY PAID ATTENTION TO ME
IT'S JUST— TO BE HONEST—

LET'S MAKE A DEAL
ふぅ
YOU TELL ME YOUR STORY LATER
STAY WITH ME WHENEVER YOU FEEL YOU'RE IN DANGER
I'LL PROTECT YOU AND YOU'LL SWEAR SECRECY IN RETURN
IS THAT UNDER-STOOD, MISS KEITO SHISHI!
!!
DID YOU REALLY THINK I WOULD KILL?
IN THIS MODERN WORLD I WOULDN'T DARE
LIAR
HE WAS DEFINITELY SERIOUS FOR A MOMENT!!
AHEM
I WANTED TO BE PROTECTED RATHER THAN KILLED..

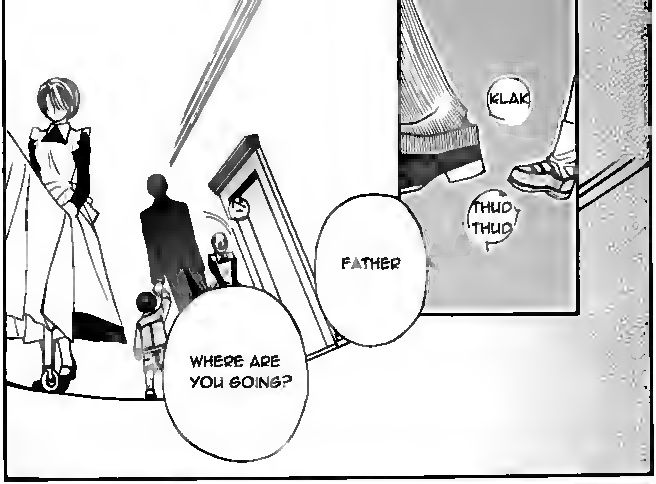
IT TOOK HIM 10 YEARS TO KNOW MY NAME.

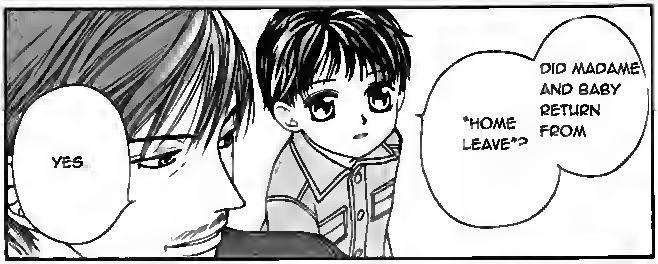
IT TOOK US A YEAR TO HAVE MEALS TOGETHER.


DARLING COUNT MY SCARS ALL OVER MY BODY
BECAUSE HAPPINESS COMES SLOWLY OUR LOVE RELATIONSHIP IS STILL DEVELOPING
-IN THE MEANTIME ALL TOGETHER-
X TEARS LATER
OK OK
I LOVE YOU EVEN WHEN YOU GET OLD, YOSHIMI-CHAN
YU!!
KI!!

SPECIAL EDITION/THE END

TORAWARENO MINOUE
LITTLE LOVE STORY

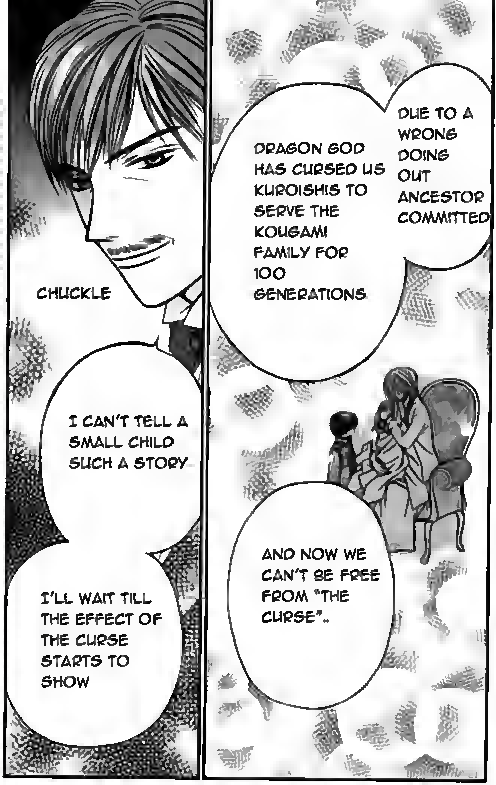

KLAK
THUD
THUD
FATHER
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

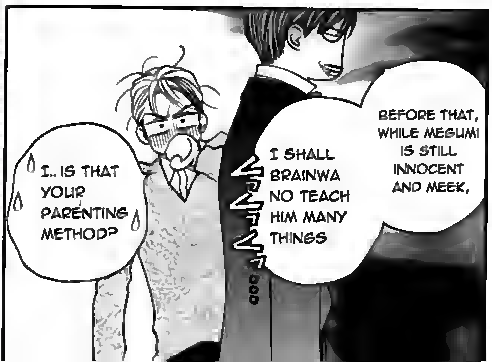

DID MADAME AND BABY RETURN FROM "HOME LEAVE"?
YES

MEGUMI,
YOU KNOW ABOUT MY JOB, DON'T YOU?

IT'S "BUTLER," ISN'T IT...
IT'S THE JOB DESCRIPTION THAT'S IMPORTANT.
WE KUROISHIS HAVE SERVED THIS KOUGAMI FAMILY FOR A LONG TIME
YOU'RE THE NEXT.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO DO THE SAME
YES.
NOW COME
LET'S SAY HI TO THE NEW BORN PRINCESS

HER NAME IS SUZUKA
I HOPE YOU WILL LIKE HER, MEGUMI-KUN..
TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER
KUROISHI,
POOR BOY.. HE DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING YET, DOES HE?
RIGHT..HE ONLY KNOWS VAGUELY ABOUT HIS POSITION


CHUCKLE
I CAN'T TELL A SMALL CHILD SUCH A STORY
I'LL WAIT TILL THE EFFECT OF THE CURSE STARTS TO SHOW
DRAGON GOD HAS CURSED US KUROISHIS TO SERVE THE KOUGAMI FAMILY FOR 100 GENERATIONS
DUE TO A WRONG DOING OUT ANCESTOR COMMITTED
AND NOW WE CAN'T BE FREE FROM "THE CURSE"..


I.. IS THAT YOUR PARENTING METHOD?
I SHALL BRAINWA NO TEACH HIM MANY THINGS
BEFORE THAT, WHILE MEGUMI IS STILL INNOCENT AND MEEK,

FLIP...
"THERE ARE FISH"
"MANY"
FISHIE!
HUM...
SPEAKING OF MADAME... HER ERRANDS ARE NOT DONE
SO MR KUROISHI CAME HOME ALONE
WHY DON'T YOU GO SEE HIM? I'LL WATCH LADY SUZUKA
MY FATHER IS ALONE NOW?
GOOD BOY, MEGUMI-KUN
YOU ARE READING A BOOK TO LADY SUZUKA
YES! MADAME ASKED ME TO

GOOD JOB
PAT PAT
YOU PRACTICED SO YOU COULD READ WELL FOR HER
THUD THUD THUD
FATHER!
BUT
YOU LEFT THE LITTLE LADY ALONE JUST TO TELL ME THAT?
MADAME HAD ASKED YOU TO KEEP HER OCCUPIED, HADN'T SHE?
MEGUMI
YOU MUSTN'T RUN THE CORRIDOR UNLESS IT'S EMERGENCY.
YOU KNOW WHAT, I WAS ABLE TO READ 3 BOOKS TO SUZUKA-CHAN.
AH... I'M SORRY...

THINK OF THE LADY BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE
FATHER...
I...
I KNOW I MAKE YOU FEEL LONELY, MEGUMI
BUT YOU KNOW I'M THE SAME WAY WITH MY MASTER, DON'T YOU?
...YES...
I DON'T LIKE IT...
MEGU
AH, MEGUMI-KUN..! GOOD..
BOO-HOO
?
BOO
SINCE YOU LEFT, SHE STARTED TO CRY

SHE NEEDS ME...?
SQUEEZE
MEGU...
TOODLE
TOODLE
BOO
CHUCKLE
OH DEAR WITH MEGUMI-KUN, SHE FELL ASLEEP IN PEACE
HOW CUTE
I WONDER WHY SHE'S ATTACHED TOME..
BECAUSE MEGUMI-KUN IS SWEETLY KIND
SWEETLY
..THEN IF I'M NOT KIND, SHE'LL LEAVE ME ALONE..
HEY
THAT WILL BE TOO MUCH...
WHAT A COLD REMARK...

I WON'T BE KIND.
NO
I WANNA PLAY WITH MEGUMI
NO, SUZUKA-CHAN.
I HAVE LESSONS TO GO TO.
PLAY!!
WAY-HEY!!
SIGH
UM...HOW CAN I MAKE HER HATE ME

NO
DON'T BE SELFISH! LET MEGUMI-KUN GO!
UM.. IT'S MY FAULT I COULDN'T SAY NO.
TIMID TIMID
SWISH
HEY SUZUKA!
MEGUMI-KUN ISN'T YOUR TOY!
NO!
PAPA!
FATHER!
BEING GOOD TO HER AND SPOILING HER ISN'T THE SAME
OUCH
CLICK
I WONDER WHY I CAN'T SAY NO..
AH— I DON'T WANT TO GO TO LESSONS TODAY..
UGH... THAT HEAD...
BOB
PAT PAT PAT
!

HUMPH
IGNORE
.....
UM.. ER..
..I'M SORRY..
I WAS BAD..
I'M SORRY.
I WON'T DO IT AGAIN.
MEGUMI
COME OUT..
CO
GLIMPSE
FIDGET FIDGET
BUT.. AREN'T YOU ANGRY?
YOU WON'T HATE SUZUKA?

AHH...IF YOU PUT IT THAT WAY...
I'M NOT MAD.
SUZUKA-CHAN'S IMPORTANT.
TODDLE TODDLE TODDLE
?
HEY...
SIT.
AM I A DOG?
HUH...
LIKE THIS? SUZUKA-CHAN.

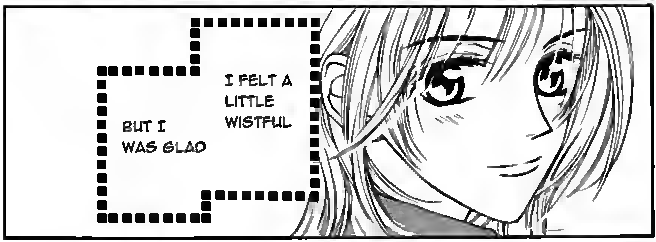
PET
PET
KISS IT AND MAKE IT BETTER.
THE PLACE KURO-SAN HIT
!!
HUG
MEGUMI'S NICE
DIDDUMS DIDDUMS
SUZUKA
NICE TO MEGUMI!

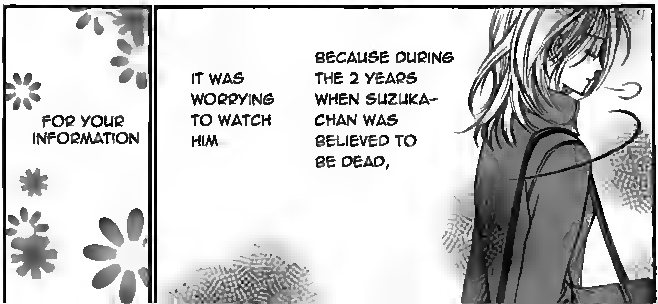
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE PROTECTING HER, BUT..
I'M HAPPY WHEN SUZUKA-CHAN LIKES ME..
..IT FEELS LIKE PROTECTED..
I'M SUPPOSED TO...
EH..?
MASTER AND MADAME AND SUZUKA-CHAN
THEY AREN'T COMING BACK..?
THEY WENT MISSING WHILE TRAVELLING IN CHINA

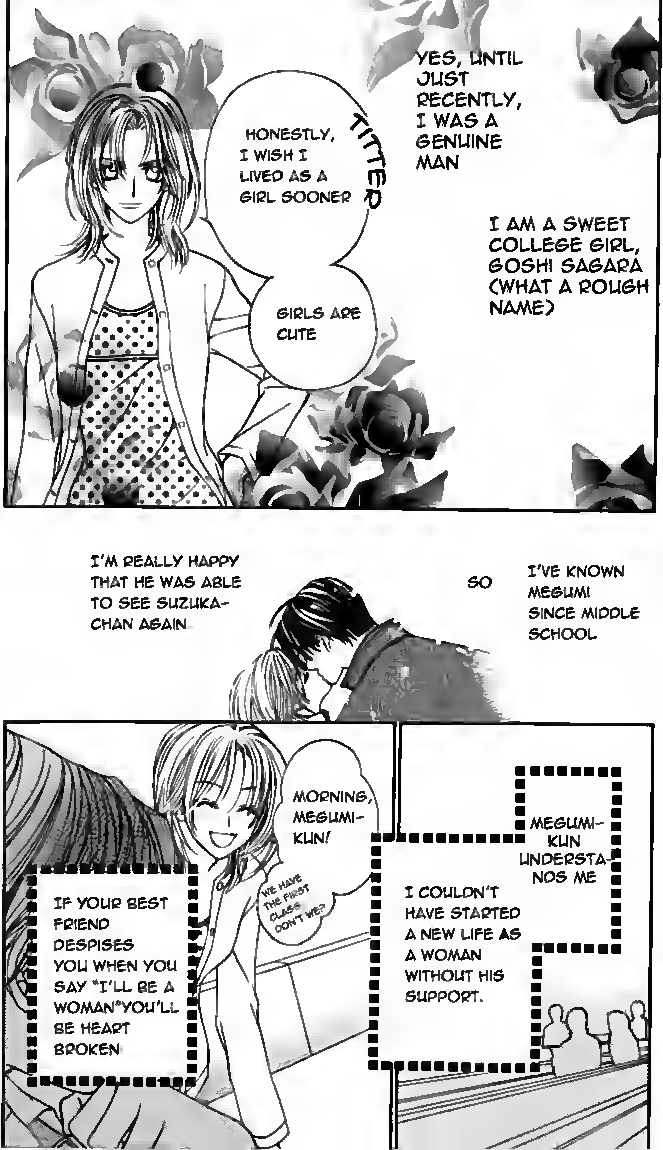
MISSING...
THEY ARE NOT DEAD, ARE THEY...?
THEY'RE ALIVE, AREN'T THEY...?
SUZUKA-CHAN...! COME HOME ALIVE!
I'LL WAIT FOR YOU...
小さな恋の物語／おわり

TORAWARENO MINOUE
MISS' SAGARA-STYLE
MEGUMI WATCH

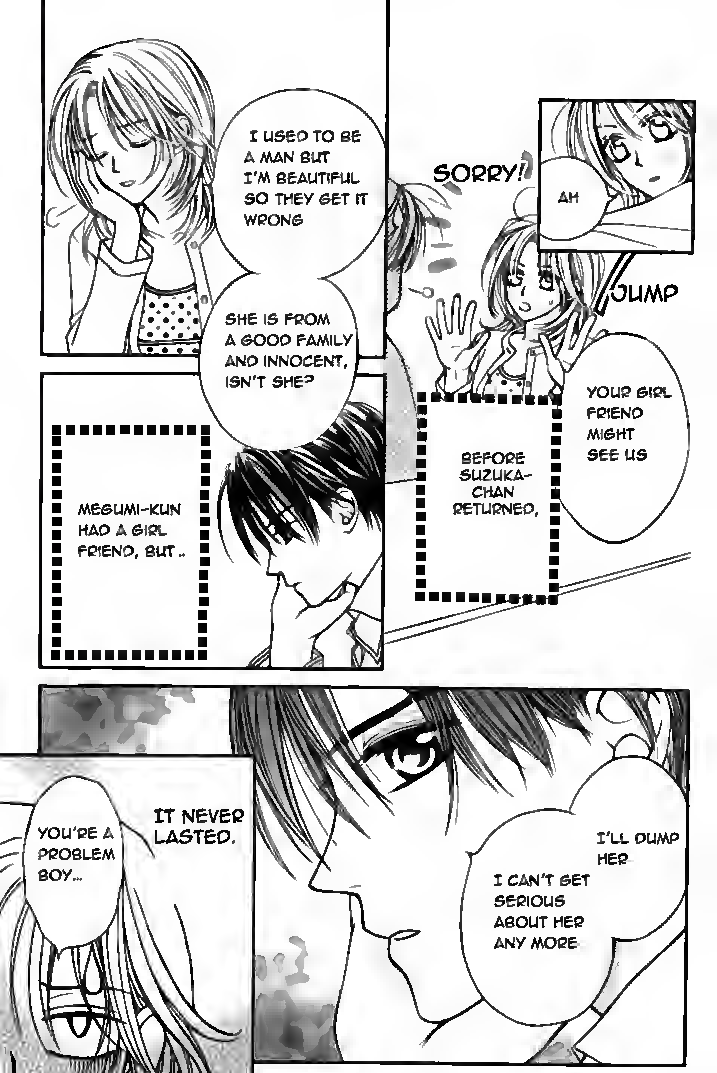
ONE DAY
I HAPPENED TO WITNESS MEGUMI-KUN KISSING SUZUKA-CHAN AT BACK OF THE AUDITORIUM.


I FELT A LITTLE WISTFUL
BUT I WAS GLAD


FOR YOUR INFORMATION
IT WAS WORRYING TO WATCH HIM
BECAUSE DURING THE 2 YEARS WHEN SUZUKA-CHAN WAS BELIEVED TO BE DEAD,


YES, UNTIL JUST RECENTLY, I WAS A GENUINE MAN
I AM A SWEET COLLEGE GIRL, GOSH! SAGARA (WHAT A ROUGH NAME)
TITTER
HONESTLY, I WISH I LIVED AS A GIRL SOONER
GIRLS ARE CUTE
I'M REALLY HAPPY THAT HE WAS ABLE TO SEE SUZUKA-CHAN AGAIN
SO
I'VE KNOWN MEGUMI SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL
MORNING, MEGUMI-KUN!
WE HAVE THE FIRST CLASS DON'T WE?
IF YOUR BEST FRIEND DESPISES YOU WHEN YOU SAY "I'LL BE A WOMAN" YOU'LL BE HEART BROKEN
I COULDN'T HAVE STARTED A NEW LIFE AS A WOMAN WITHOUT HIS SUPPORT.
MEGUMI-KUN UNDERSTANDS ME

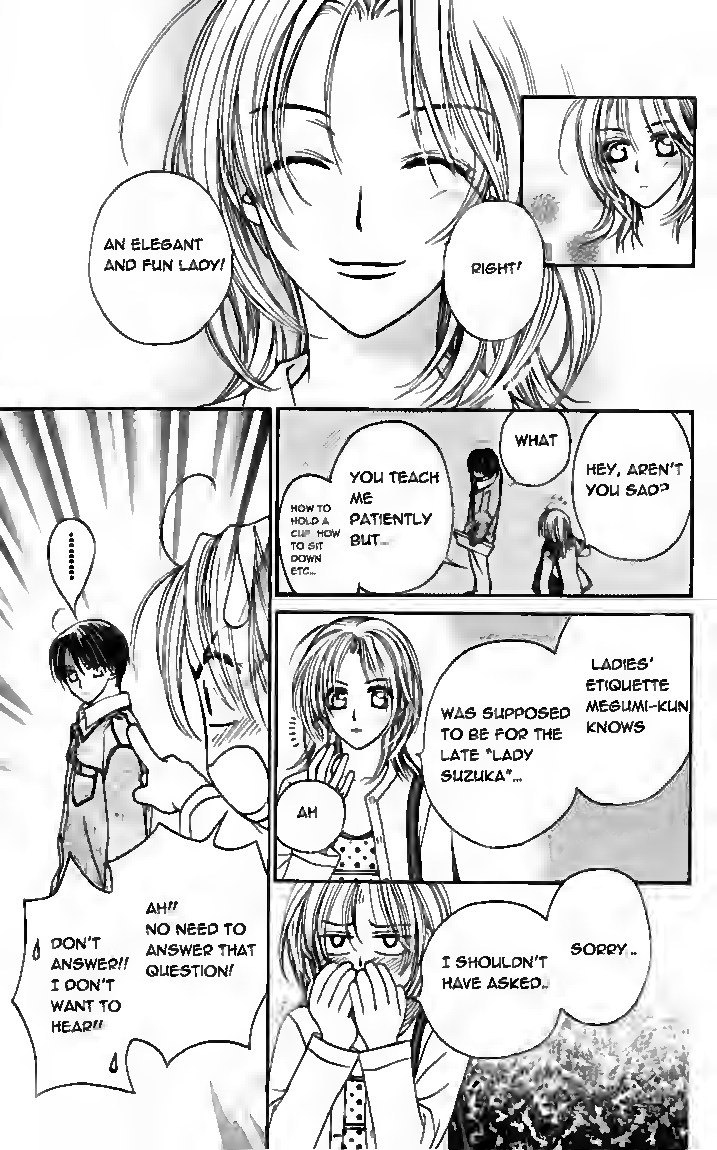
JUST BEFORE SUZUKA-CHAN CAME HOME ALIVE
BUT RECENTLY
...AH
MEGUMI SEEMED TO BE GOING DOWN...
SAGARA
THAT ONE-PIECE...
!
YES! JUST BOUGHT IT YESTERDAY
ISN'T THE LINE ON THE FRONT CUTE
AWWW I LOVE YOUR DELICATE SENSIBILITY!
GLAD YOU NOTICED!
AHH OK OK DON'T HUG ME


I USED TO BE A MAN BUT I'M BEAUTIFUL SO THEY GET IT WRONG
SHE IS FROM A GOOD FAMILY AND INNOCENT, ISN'T SHE?
MEGUMI-KUN HAD A GIRL FRIEND, BUT..
SORRY!
AH
DUMP
BEFORE SUZUKA-CHAN RETURNED,
YOUR GIRL FRIEND MIGHT SEE US
I'LL DUMP HER
I CAN'T GET SERIOUS ABOUT HER ANY MORE
IT NEVER LASTED.
YOU'RE A PROBLEM BOY...

GOOD BYE
AHHH YOU MADE A GIRL CRY AGAIN
YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THINGS LIKE
"I DON'T CARE ANY MORE"
SAGARA.

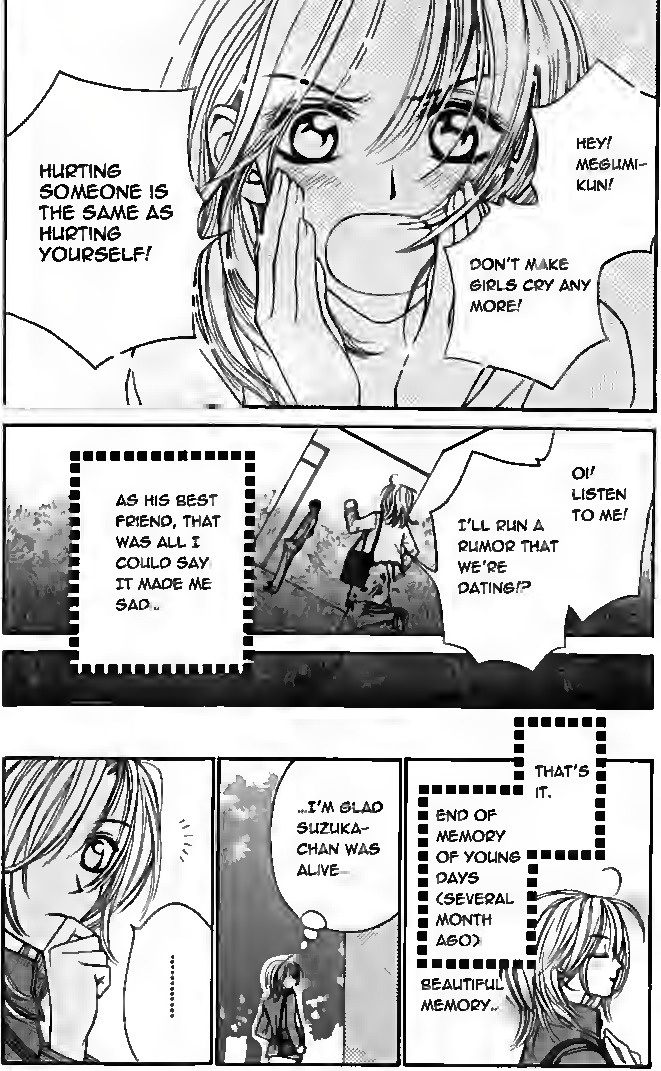
EHH
NO!
WITH THAT ANGLE, I COULD SEE INSIDE YOUR SKIRT...
I KNOW IT WAS THE GIRL WHO ARRANGED THE CHANCE TO COURT YOU
HUH? WHY DID YOU BACK UP?
BACK
SQUEAL SQUEAL
SAGARA!
HOW DISGRACEFUL OF ME!
Y...YES...
Y...YES...
YOU LACK THE LADY'S TRAINING.

WHACK
AIIEEEE
THEN KEEP THAT POSTURE!
IN THIS CASE, BENDING KNEES WON'T FLATTER THE LEGS!!
スパルタ!!
YOU WANT TO WEAR A MINI SKIRT AT ANY COST, DON'T YOU!?
ばし!
WRONG!!!
H..HOW'S THIS?
A WOMAN'S ROAD IS HARD
..BUT I WOULDN'T MIND IF MEGUMI-KUN SEES MY UNDIE. GIGGLE
STUPID
IT'S NOT THE KIND OF WOMAN YOU WANT TO BE, IS IT?
..THAT'LL DO FOR NOW


AN ELEGANT AND FUN LADY!
RIGHT!
WHAT
HEY, AREN'T YOU SAD?
YOU TEACH ME PATIENTLY BUT...
HOW TO HOLD A CUP, HOW TO SIT DOWN ETC...
LADIES' ETIQUETTE MEGUMI-KUN KNOWS
WAS SUPPOSED TO BE FOR THE LATE "LADY SUZUKA"...
AH
SORRY..
I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED..
.....
AH!! NO NEED TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION!
DON'T ANSWER!! I DON'T WANT TO HEAR!!

MEGUMI-KUN BECAME SOMEWHAT SLAPDASH

WHEN HE WAS TOLD SUZUKA-CHAN DIED AFTER SHE WAS MISSING FOR YEARS (THOUGH LATER FOUND IT WAS A FALSE REPORT)


HURTING SOMEONE IS THE SAME AS HURTING YOURSELF!
HEY! MEGUMI-KUN!
DON'T MAKE GIRLS CRY ANY MORE!
AS HIS BEST FRIEND, THAT WAS ALL I COULD SAY IT MADE ME SAD..
I'LL RUN A RUMOR THAT WE'RE DATING!?
OI! LISTEN TO ME!
.....
...I'M GLAD SUZUKA-CHAN WAS ALIVE...
THAT'S IT.
END OF MEMORY OF YOUNG DAYS (SEVERAL MONTH AGO)
BEAUTIFUL MEMORY..

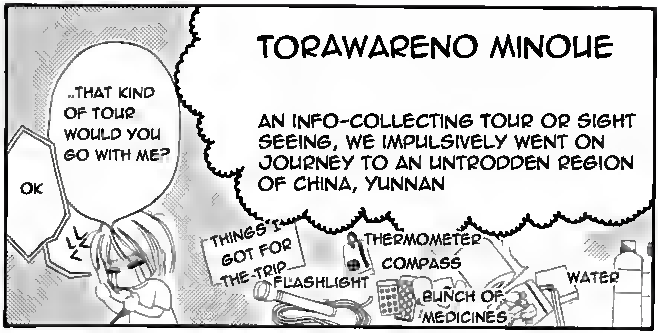
SNEAK
AIIIEEE
GACK!! THEY'RE STILL KISSING!!
I HAVE A WILD URGE TO INTERFERE!!!
RASP
QUIETLY.
NO NO I MUST BE HAPPY FOR THEM I WON'T

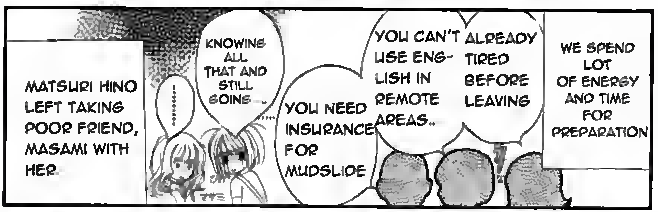
OH NO
I DIDN'T MEAN TO!
!!
!!
I'M TOO EMBARRASSED I WAS SEEN..!
HE'S STRONGER THAN I AM.
MEGUMI WOULDN'T LET ME GO..!!
BOO HOO
SORRY, SUZUKA-CHAN
DON'T WORRY! MAYBE NO ONE ELSE SAW IT.
AH— MEGUMI-KUN
STILL MAKING A GIRL CRY..
MAYBE..?

BUT...
SUZUKA. LOOK AT ME
HELLO
I LOVE YOU
...DIDN'T YOU FEEL IT FROM THAT KISS..?
.....
...I DID
STRONGLY.

CLICK
..THEN DON'T BE SO EMBARRASSED...
LOVE DUMB COUPLE
HOW INTERESTING WHOEVER THOUGHT IT...
ONCE HE GETS SERIOUS ABOUT A GIRL,
MEGUMI TURNS TO A LOVE-NUT AND IGNORES THE REST
PLONK
BUT WELL

I'M A LITTLE SAD
BUT HAPPY FOR THEM
THEY'RE HAPPY
SEE YOU, THEN
I WAS ON MY WAY HOME
THE WAY YOU SIT ON A CHAIR
LOOKS BETTER.
I
SAGARA!
WHAT?
YEAH!
LOVE MEGUMI

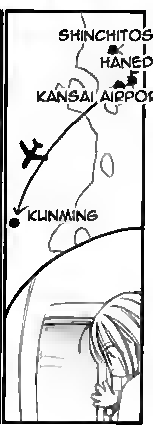

TORAWARENO MINOUE
AN INFO-COLLECTING TOUR OR SIGHT SEEING, WE IMPULSIVELY WENT ON JOURNEY TO AN UNTRODDEN REGION OF CHINA, YUNNAN
..THAT KIND OF TOUR WOULD YOU GO WITH ME?
OK
THINGS I GOT FOR THE TRIP
THERMOMETER
COMPASS
FLASHLIGHT
BUNCH OF MEDICINES
WATER

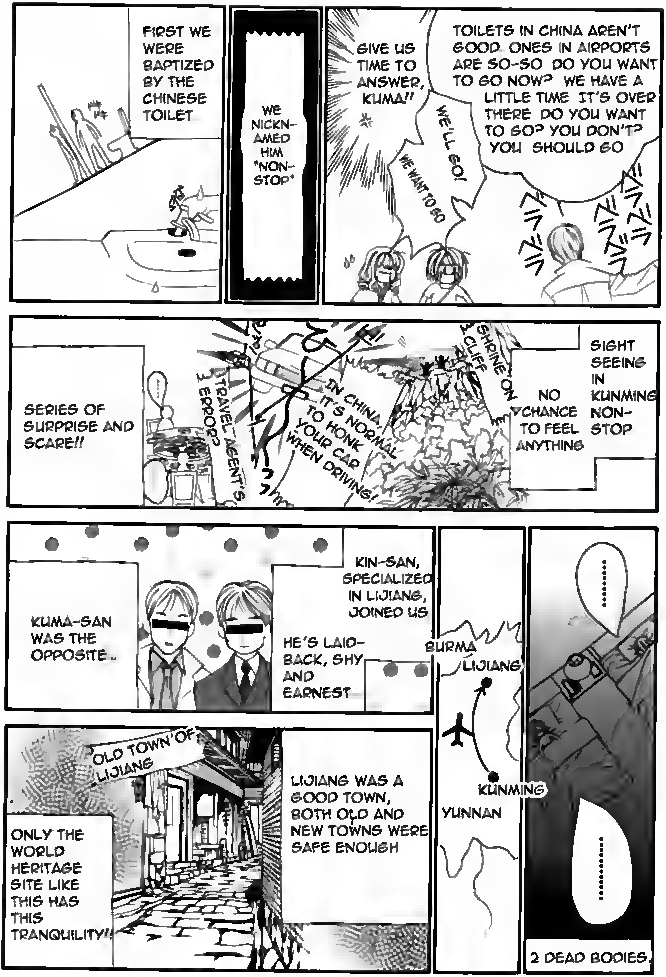

MATSURI HINO LEFT TAKING POOR FRIEND, MASAMI WITH HER.
KNOWING ALL THAT AND STILL GOING ~
YOU NEED INSURANCE FOR MUDSLIDE
YOU CAN'T USE ENGLISH IN REMOTE AREAS..
ALREADY TIRED BEFORE LEAVING
WE SPEND LOT OF ENERGY AND TIME FOR PREPARATION

<NO.3>
I'M YOUR GUIDE, KUMA HERE'S MY CARD YOU GOT A CARD?
THE THROUGH GUIDE, KUMA -SAN!!
THERE'S AN AIRPORT TAX,
I'LL PAY FOR YOU. REIMBURSE ME LATER
CHATTER

<NO 2>
STAFFS WHO STOOD CHATTING IN LOOSE UNIFORM AT ARRIVAL GATE

PEOPLE IN CHINA
<NO 1>
A MYSTERIOUS STAFF UNIFORM WAVING IN A WIND ON A RUNWAY


SHINCHITOSE
HANEDA
KANSAI AIRPORT
KUNMING


FIRST WE WERE BAPTIZED BY THE CHINESE TOILET
WE NICKNAMED HIM "NON-STOP"
GIVE US TIME TO ANSWER, KUMA!"
WE'LL GO!
WE WANT TO GO
TOILETS IN CHINA AREN'T GOOD ONES IN AIRPORTS ARE SO-SO DO YOU WANT TO GO NOW? WE HAVE A LITTLE TIME IT'S OVER THERE DO YOU WANT TO GO? YOU DON'T? YOU SHOULD GO
SERIES OF SURPRISE AND SCARE!!
TRAVEL AGENT'S
EPOCH
IN CHINA IT'S NORMAL TO HONK YOUR CAR WHEN DRIVING!
SHRINE ON A CLIFF
NO CHANCE TO FEEL ANYTHING
SIGHT SEEING IN KUNMING NON-STOP
KUMA-SAN WAS THE OPPOSITE.
KIN-SAN, SPECIALIZED IN LIJIANG, JOINED US
HE'S LAID-BACK, SHY AND EARNEST
BURMA
LIJIANG
KUNMING
YUNNAN
2 DEAD BODIES.
OLD TOWN OF LIJIANG
ONLY THE WORLD HERITAGE SITE LIKE THIS HAS THIS TRANQUILITY!!
LIJIANG WAS A GOOD TOWN, BOTH OLD AND NEW TOWNS WERE SAFE ENOUGH

中国の秘境 雲南の旅！

AMAZING THERE'S NATURAL GRASS HERE!
TOO
HA HA HA!
WE VISITED YUN SHAN PING
THERE IS THE IMPENETRABLE JADE DRAGON SNOW MOUNTAIN THERE
GASP
WE HAVE TO VENTURE INTO THE REMOTE AREA.
HOW WAS IT ..?
THERE'S NO DOOR,
AMAZING TOILET IN WORLD HERITAGE SITE
BRAVE
BRAVE MASAMI
FOUND A GREAT SHOP!
PEOPLE COME HERE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. FOOD IS DELICIOUS!!!
WHY ARE WE HAVING KIMCHI WITH COFFEE?
THE OWNER IS A KOREAN AND SPEAKS 5 LANGUAGES HIS WIFE IS THAILAND..WE ARE "JAPANESE..
GOOD BYE, KUMA-SAN, KIN-SAN!!
BUT SOMETHING CAME UP IN JAPAN
WE HAD TO LEAVE EARLY!!!
AND WE WERE TO VISIT THE REMOTE AREA JAPANESE SELDOM VISIT
WHERE'S THE JAS COUNTER?
WHERE'S THE MONEY EXCHANGE?
WHERE'S THE INTERNATIONAL LINES?
LIJIANG
KUNMING
GUANGZHOU
SHINCHITOSE
KANSAI AIRPORT
"FREAK CHINA TOUR EDITION" OF MEGUMI AND SUZUKA WILL START IN THE NEXT VOLUME
WELL
I BET THE "FREAK" PART WILL BE IN THE STORY...
I MISS KUNMING
BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE A FREAK TRIP
WE WANTED TO RESEARCH FOR "TORAWARENO MINOUE (CAPTIVE HEARTS), TOO
AND SO WE HURRIED BACK ..

JOURNEY TO AN UNTRODDEN REGION OF CHINA, YUNNAN/THE END

LALA 25TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT
AUTOGRAPH-SIGNING SESSION IN THE DISTRICT!!

I GOT MY OWN AUTOGRAPH CARD SO THAT I COULD GET AN AUTOGRAPH FROM MS. HINO WHO HAPPENED TO BE HAVING AN AUTOGRAPH SESSION RIGHT AFTER ME. THAT'S IS A SHOUJO CARTOONIST'S RESPECT!!

SINCE IT DOESN'T HAPPEN SO OFTEN, HINO SHOWED UP IN AN UNUSUALLY ENTHUSIASTIC MOOD

AS SOON AS I SAT DOWN

NOW WE START THE AUTOGRAPH SESSION OF MS. MATSURI HINO'S

GOT MY BRUSH-PEN, AND "MY" AUTOGRAPH CARDS"

I DID MYSELF UP

FRIENDS

BOOKSTORES

ME

PERSON IN CHARGE

SALES PEOPLE

BOOKSTORES

MANY PEOPLE WERE THERE WATCHING OVER ME AND IT WAS REASSURING

I WAS SO ANXIOUS MY HANDWRITING MIGHT BE TOO SHAKY...

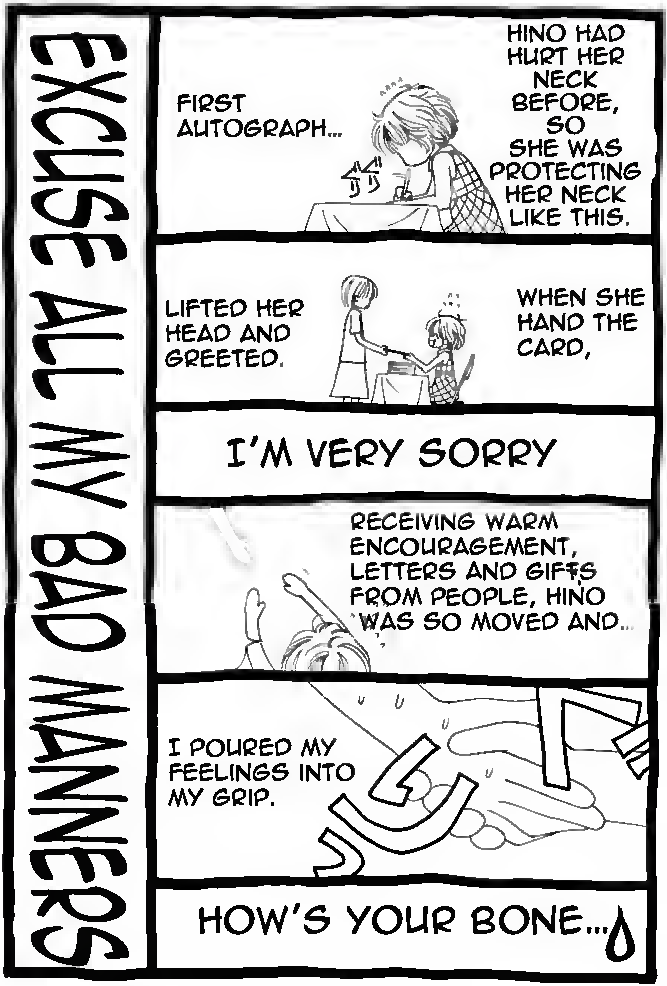
SITE PLAN

THE AUTOGRAPH CARDS WERE HAD ILLUSTRATION PRE-PRINTED

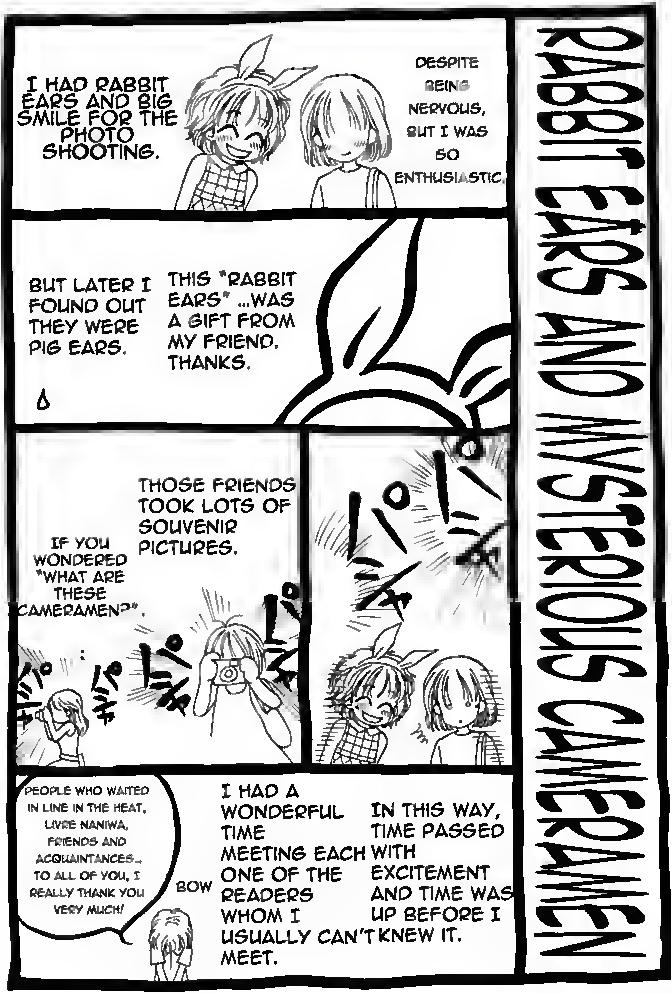
MY AUTOGRAPH WRITTEN " MATSURI HINO JUL. 20 2001

THE MEMORABLE FIRST PERSON TO BE HONEST, I WAS TOO NERVOUS TO REMEMBER.. I'M SORRY!!!

EXCUSE ALL MY BAD MANNERS


FIRST AUTOGRAPH...
HINO HAD HURT HER NECK BEFORE, SO SHE WAS PROTECTING HER NECK LIKE THIS.
LIFTED HER HEAD AND GREETED.
WHEN SHE HAND THE CARD,
I'M VERY SORRY
RECEIVING WARM ENCOURAGEMENT, LETTERS AND GIFTS FROM PEOPLE, HINO WAS SO MOVED AND...
I POURED MY FEELINGS INTO MY GRIP.
HOW'S YOUR BONE...

RABBIT EARS AND MYSTERIOUS CAMERAMEN


I HAD RABBIT EARS AND BIG SMILE FOR THE PHOTO SHOOTING.
DESPITE BEING NERVOUS, BUT I WAS SO ENTHUSIASTIC.
BUT LATER I FOUND OUT THEY WERE PIG EARS.
THIS "RABBIT EARS" ...WAS A GIFT FROM MY FRIEND. THANKS.
THOSE FRIENDS TOOK LOTS OF SOUVENIR PICTURES.
IF YOU WONDERED "WHAT ARE THESE CAMERAMEN?".
PEOPLE WHO WAITED IN LINE IN THE HEAT, LIVE NANIWA, FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES... TO ALL OF YOU, I REALLY THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
BOW
I HAD A WONDERFUL TIME MEETING EACH ONE OF THE READERS WHOM I USUALLY CAN'T MEET.
IN THIS WAY, TIME PASSED WITH EXCITEMENT AND TIME WAS UP BEFORE I KNEW IT.

(収録作品メモ)
蒔とらわれの身の上　平成13年　ララ3・4・6・7月号掲載
蒔とらわれの身の上～特別番外編♡～　平成13年　ララDX1月号掲載
蒔とらわれの身の上～小さな恋の物語～　平成13年　ララDX7月号掲載
●とらわれの身の上～拘束観的頑観観～　平成13年　ララDX7月号掲載
蒔中後の秘境 観雨の旅ノ　平成13年　ララ9月号掲載

花とゆめCOMICS

とらわれの身の上④

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